

FEBRUARY 10, 1978

THIS WEEK NO. 6

ANNCR:

"THIS WEEK."

"FROM THE VOICE OF AMERICA, THE HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WEEK GONE BY...A LOOK AT SOME OF THE EVENTS, A CROSS-SECTION OF THE IDEAS, AND THE VOICES OF SOME OF THE PEOPLE WHO MADE NEWS DURING THE PAST SEVEN DAYS. YOUR NARRATOR IS -----."

NARR:

THE QUEST FOR PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST CONTINUED THIS WEEK -- BUT ALTHOUGH ON ONE SIDE THERE WAS SOME HOPE THAT IT MAY COME, ON ANOTHER SIDE, A LONG SMOLDERING FLAME ERRUPTED AGAIN, THREATENING IT. EGYPTIAN PRESIDENT ANWAR SADAT AND PRESIDENT JIMMY CARTER CONCLUDED EXTENSIVE TALKS ON PEACE PROSPECTS IN THE AREA, AND THE FEELING THAT EMERGED WAS THAT THE UNITED STATES WILL PLAY A MORE INTENSIVE ROLE IN THE MIDDLE EAST PEACE-MAKING PROCESS. PRESIDENT SADAT, WHO DESCRIBED HIMSELF AS PREVIOUSLY DISCOURAGED, SAID HE WAS LEAVING WASHINGTON WITH MUCH MORE PERSEVERENCE IN THE QUEST FOR PEACE:

TAPE: CUT ONE -- SADAT

"I CAME DISHEARTENED, DISCOURAGED. I SHALL RETURN TODAY BACK TO MY COUNTRY WITH MUCH MORE PERSEVERANCE FOR REACHING PEACE THROUGH THE EFFORTS THAT WE HAVE STARTED TOGETHER, THE UNITED STATES AND EGYPT, SINCE NOVEMBER 1973, AND WHICH BY GOD'S WILL WE SHALL ATTAIN ALL OUR TARGETS IN THE ESTABLISHMENT OF PEACE, PERMAMENT PEACE IN THE AREA."

NARR:

PRESIDENT CARTER SAID HE EXPLAINED TO PRESIDENT SADAT THE DEEP COMMITMENT OF THE UNITED STATES TO THE SECURITY OF ISRAEL. AND HE ADDED THAT THE EGYPTIAN LEADER SHARES THIS COMMITMENT THAT ISRAEL BE SECURE. (OPT) PRESIDENT CARTER ALSO HAD HIGH PRAISE FOR PRESIDENT SADAT:

TAPE: CUT TWO -- CARTER

"I'M HONORED TO BE WITH THE WORLD'S FOREMOST PEACEMAKER, PRESIDENT SADAT, AND TO SHARE WITH HIM A PARTNERSHIP IN THIS WORTHY ENDEAVOR. PRESIDENT SADAT, JIHAN (MISSUS SADAT) AND YOUR FAMILY, YOU HAVE BEEN WELCOMED HERE BY ME AND ALL THE PEOPLE OF OUR COUNTRY. WE ADMIRE YOU DEEPLY AND WE KNOW THAT WITH YOUR HELP AND WITH YOUR PERSISTENT COOPERATION, YOU, WE, THE ISRAELIS AND OTHERS IN THE MIDDLE EAST, CAN FIND WHAT WE ALL SEARCH FOR SO DEEPLY, AND WHAT IS PERMANENT PEACE IN THAT TROUBLE PART OF THE WORLD." (END OPT)

NARR:

IN HIS TALKS WITH PRESIDENT SADAT, MISTER CARTER REAFFIRMED THE U.S. POSITION THAT A MIDEAST SETTLEMENT MUST BE BASED ON ALL THE PRINCIPLES OF U.N. RESOLUTION 242, INCLUDING THE WITHDRAWAL OF ISRAELI FORCES FROM OCCUPIED TERRITORIES. MISTER CARTER ALSO REAFFIRMED THE LONGSTANDING U.S. VIEW THAT ISRAELI SETTLEMENTS IN OCCUPIED TERRITORY ARE CONTRARY TO INTERNATIONAL LAW AND AN OBSTACLE TO PEACE. THE AMERICAN PRESIDENT ALSO REPEATED HIS POSITION THAT A RESOLUTION OF THE PALESTINIAN PROBLEM MUST RECOGNIZE THE LEGITIMATE RIGHTS OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE AND ENABLE THEM TO PARTICIPATE IN THE DETERMINATION OF THEIR OWN FUTURE.

DURING PRESIDENT SADAT'S TALKS WITH PRESIDENT CARTER, OTHER OFFICIALS AND MEMBERS OF CONGRESS, EGYPT'S REQUEST FOR ARMS, INCLUDING FIGHTER PLANES, WAS ALSO DISCUSSED. CARTER ADMINISTRATION OFFICIALS SAID A DECISION HAS YET TO BE MADE, AND ONCE IT IS, IT WILL BE SUBMITTED BY TO CONGRESS.

THE POSSIBILITY OF U.S. SALES OF OFFENSIVE MILITARY AIRCRAFT TO EGYPT, WAS VIEWED BY ISRAELI PRIME MINISTER MENACHEM BEGIN AS A THREAT TO PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST. AS VOA CORRESPONDENT RICHARD KILIAN REPORTS, DURING A NEWS CONFERENCE HELD IN GENEVA MISTER BEGIN ADDED THAT HE HOPED THE UNITED STATES UNDERSTANDS THAT ANY SALE OF OFFENSIVE WEAPONS TO EGYPT OR TO ANY OTHER ARAB NATION WOULD BE A THREAT TO THE PEACE-MAKING PROCESS:

TAPE: CUT THREE -- KILIAN

"MISTER BEGIN REFERRED TO THE POSSIBLE AMERICAN AIRCRAFT SALE CALLING IT A THREAT AND AN ULTIMATUM TO WHICH HE SAID ISRAEL CANNOT SUBMIT EVEN THOUGH MANY PEOPLE SAY THE ALTERNATIVE IS WAR. ISRAEL, HE ADDED, WILL NOT BE INFLUENCED BY SUCH THREATS. AND HE WENT ON TO PRAISE THE ISRAELI PEACE PROPOSALS AS A NEGOTIATING DOCUMENT AIMED AT PRODUCING A GENUINE PEACE TREATY. THE PRIME MINISTER SAID HE DID NOT BELIEVE THAT ISRAEL HAD LOST ANY SUPPORT IN THE UNITED STATES OVER RECENT ESTABLISHMENT OF ISRAELI SETTLEMENTS IN OCCUPIED ARAB LANDS AND HE ADDED HE DOES NOT THINK THERE IS ANY PROBLEM OVER THOSE SETTLEMENTS AT THIS TIME."

THE QUESTION OF THE ISRAELI SETTLEMENTS IN OCCUPIED LANDS WAS ALSO DISCUSSED BY ISRAELI FOREIGN MINISTER MOSHE DAYAN, WHO ALSO WAS IN THE UNITED STATES THIS WEEK. (OPT) MR. DAYAN SAID THE PEACE TALKS ARE BOGGED DOWN OVER EGYPT'S REFUSAL TO CONCLUDE A SEPARATE PEACE WITH ISRAEL WHILE AT THE SAME TIME THE OTHER ARAB PARTIES ARE NOT WILLING TO JOIN THE NEGOTIATIONS. (END OPT)

MISTER DAYAN ADDED THAT THE ARAB COUNTRIES INSIST ON CONCESSIONS FROM ISRAEL BEFORE NEGOTIATIONS BEGIN. AND HE REPEATED ISRAEL'S POSITION THAT ALL ISSUES ARE NEGOTIABLE. AS TO THE DISPUTE OVER THE ISRAELI SETTLEMENTS, MISTER DAYAN COUNTERED THE AMERICAN ACCUSATIONS THAT HIS COUNTRY IS NOT KEEPING PROMISES IN AN ANGRY TONE: (END OPT)

TAPE: CUT FOUR -- DAYAN

"SOME OF THE ACCUSATIONS ARE JUST NOT TRUE -- FALSE -- JUST NOT TRUE. I KNOW EXACTLY WHAT WE PROMISED AND WE ARE LIVING UP TO EVERY WORD THAT WE HAVE PROMISED. NO ISRAELI IN THE PAST AND SURELY NOT THIS PRESENT ISRAELI GOVERNMENT IS GOING TO PROMISE THAT NO MORE ISRAELI SETTLEMENTS AT ANY TIME WOULD BE ESTABLISHED IN THE WEST BANK, EVEN IF YOU, THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, THINK THAT THIS IS ILLEGAL. WE DO AGREE AND WE DID PROMISE THAT IN THE NEAR FUTURE WHILE THE INTENSIVE NEGOTIATIONS FOR PEACE ARE TAKING PLACE, WE SHALL NOT ESTABLISH SETTLEMENTS OUTSIDE OF MILITARY CAMPS AND WE DID MENTION THE FIGURE THAT SUCH AN ARRANGEMENT OR COMMITMENT WILL HOLD FOR SOMETHING LIKE TWELVE MONTHS."

NARR:

EARLIER IN THE WEEK, THE UNITED STATES RELEASED A CHRONOLOGY OF EXCHANGES IT HAD LAST MONTH WITH ISRAEL OVER THE SETTLEMENTS IN THREE MESSAGES TO ISRAEL IN JANUARY. IN RELEASING THE CHRONOLOGY, THE STATE DEPARTMENT SAID IT WAS DOING SO TO CLEAR UP AN ALLEGATION THAT THE UNITED STATES DID NOT OBJECT SERIOUSLY TO THE LATEST ISRAELI SETTLEMENTS IN OCCUPIED LANDS. THESE EVENTS WERE NOT THE ONLY ONES WHICH POINTED TO THE DIFFICULTY IN ATTAINING PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST. AS ARABS AND ISRAELIS WERE TRYING TO FIND THE PATH TO AN UNDERSTANDING, ARABS WERE AGAIN FIGHTING ARABS IN THE SAME AREA THIS WEEK: IN BEIRUT, THERE WAS RENEWED FIGHTING BETWEEN THE SYRIAN PEACE-KEEPING FORCES AND LEBANESE ARMY UNITS. THE CLASHES BEGAN NEAR A LEBANESE ARMY BARRACKS ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF BEIRUT AND THEN SPREAD TO THE PREDOMINANTLY CHRISTIAN SECTOR OF THE LEBANESE CAPITAL -- WITH SYRIAN TROOPS FIGHTING ONE OF THE CHRISTIAN GROUPS. WHILE THERE ARE YET NO RELIABLE CASUALTY FIGURES, THIS WAS CLEARLY THE WORST OUTBREAK OF VIOLENCE IN LEBANON SINCE THE CIVIL WAR WAS BROUGHT TO A HALT FIFTEEN MONTHS AGO.

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IN THE HORN OF AFRICA, FIGHTING BETWEEN ETHIOPIAN FORCES AND SOMALI INSURGENTS ALSO INTENSIFIED SHARPLY THIS WEEK WITH THE APPARENT BEGINING OF AN ETHIOPIAN COUNTEROFFENSIVE TO RECAPTURE THE MOST OF OGADEN AREA LOST SINCE JULY OF LAST YEAR. AS VOA CORRESPONDENT BOB CHANCELLOR REPORTED FROM NAIROBI, IN RESPONSE TO THE RENEWED FIGHTING, SOMALIA IS NOW CONSIDERING A GENERAL MOBILIZATION TO FACE WHAT IT FEARS WILL BE AN ATTACK ON SOMALI ITSELF:

TAPE: CUT FIVE -- CHANCELLOR

"THE SOMALI MINISTER OF INFORMATION HAS ANNOUNCED THAT HIS GOVERNMENT HAS DECIDED ON A MASS MOBILIZATION AND IS CONSIDERING THROWING REGULAR SOMALI TROOPS INTO THE FIGHTING. UP TO NOW SOMALI HAS MAINTAINED THAT ONLY INSURGENTS OF THE WESTERN SOMALI LIBERATION FRONT AND NOT SOMALI REGULAR TROOPS HAVE BEEN FIGHTING IN THE OGADEN, ALTHOUGH ETHIOPIA CONTENDS THE REGULAR SOMALI ARMY IS INVOLVED. IN MEANWHILE ETHIOPIA MADE A DIRECT APPEAL TO SOMALI FORCES IN THE OGADEN TO SURRENDER PEACEFULLY OR FACE ANNIHILATION AND COLOSSAL DESTRUCTION. (OPT) THE MILITARY COMMAND SAID SOMALI FORCES ARE BEING DECIMATED. WE DID NOT INVADE YOUR COUNTRY,' THE ETHIOPIAN COMMAND TOLD SOMALI, 'IT WAS YOU AND YOUR RULERS WHO INVADED OUR COUNTRY. FROM NOW ON WE CANNOT REMAIN PATIENT.' THE PLEA REPEATED THE ETHIOPIAN GOVERNMENT POSITION THAT IT IS FIGHTING A DEFENSIVE WAR. ETHIOPIA DENIES THAT IT HAS ANY INTENTION OF CROSSING THE BORDER INTO SOMALIA, BUT ONLY INTENDS TO CLEAR SOMALIS FROM ITS OWN TERRITORY.

NARR:

BY WEEK'S END, ETHIOPIAN TROOPS WERE REPORTEDLY ADVANCING TO RECAPTURE THE TOWN OF JIGJIGA, A STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS OUTPOST CAPTURED BY SOMALI INSURGENTS LAST SEPTEMBER. AND SOMALIA ANNOUNCED THAT ETHIOPIAN JET FIGHTERS STRUCK ACROSS THE BORDER TO ATTACK THE NORTHERN SOMALI CITIES OF HARGEISA AND BERBERA. MEANWHILE, IN WASHINGTON, A STATE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN CONFIRMED NEWS REPORTS THAT CUBAN SOLDIERS ARE FLYING SOVIET-SUPPLIED AIRCRAFT IN ETHIOPIA, AND HE SAID THEY MAY BE TAKING PART IN ACTUAL COMBAT OPERATIONS. THE SPOKESMAN ALSO SAID THAT ACCORDING TO AMERICAN ESTIMATES THERE ARE THREE THOUSAND CUBAN ADVISORS IN ETHIOPIA -- AN INCREASE OF FIFTY PERCENT WITHIN THE LAST FEW MONTHS.

ALSO IN WASHINGTON THIS WEEK, THE U.S. SENATE THIS WEEK BEGAN DEBATE ON THE CONTROVERSIAL PANAMA CANAL TREATIES. AS THE DEBATE BEGAN, MOST POLLS OF THE SENATE INDICATED THAT NEITHER THE PRO-TREATY FORCES NOR THOSE OPPOSED TO THE RATIFICATION HAVE ENOUGH VOTES TO WIN. IT TAKES A TWO-THIRDS MAJORITY IN THE SENATE FOR RATIFICATION AND ONLY 34 VOTES ARE ENOUGH TO DEFEAT IT. WHILE BOTH THE DEMOCRATIC AND REPUBLICAN LEADERS SUPPORT THE

TREATIES WITH AMENDMENTS SPELLING OUT U.S. RIGHTS TO DEFEND THE CANAL, THE OUTCOME IS FAR FROM CERTAIN. SENATE DEPUTY MAJORITY LEADER ALLAN CRANSTON WAS CAUTIOUSLY OPTIMISTIC:

TAPE: CUT SIX -- CRANSTON

"I THINK THE PROSPECTS FOR RATIFICATION URE GETTING BETTER DAY BY DAY, BUT IT'S NO CINCH. IT'S A HARD, TOUGH BATTLE. WE DON'T YET HAVE THE VOTES NEEDED TO PASS THE TREATIES. THE OPPONENTS DON'T YET HAVE THE VOTES NECESSARY TO DEFEAT THE TREATIES."

NARR:

(OPT)SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN JOHN SPARKMAN URGED HIS COLLEAGUES NOT TO BECOME DOWN IN WHAT HE CALLED SIDE ISSUES NOT DIRECTLY RELATED TO THE PURPOSE OF THE TREATIES. HOWEVER, INDICATIONS ARE THAT SCORES OF AMENDMENTS, RESERVATIONS OR UNDERSTANDS MAY BE OFFERED DURING THE DEBATE, WHICH MAY LAST AS LONG AS FIVE WEEKS. (END OPT) OPPONENTS OF THE TREATIES ARE DETERMINED TO USE EVERY PARLIAMENTARY MEANS AVAILABLE TO DEFEAT OR AT LEAST DELAY RATIFICATION. ONE OF THESE IS SENATOR GRIFFIN FROM MICHIGAN:

TAPE: CUT SEVEN -- GRIFFIN

"I THINK THAT THE TREATIES BEFORE US DO NOT SERVE THE INTERESTS OF THE UNITED STATES AND I THINK THAT THE DEFECTS IN THEM ARE SO BASIC AND FUNDAMENTAL THAT THEY REALLY CAN'T BE REMEDIED BY REWRITING THE TREATIES ON THE SENATE FLOOR. I REALLY THINK THAT WOULD BE A BAD WAY TO APPROACH THE THING. I THINK IT WOULD BE BETTER TO ADVISE THE PRESIDENT TO SEND THE NEGOTIATORS BACK TO THE DRAWING BOARD, SO TO SPEAK, AND COME UP WITH A MORE ACCEPTABLE TREATY."

NARR:

ALSO THIS WEEK, THE U.S. CONGRESS PUBLISHED REPORTS ON HUMAN RIGHTS CONDITIONS IN 105 NATIONS TO WHICH THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION PROPOSED TO EXTEND MILITARY OR ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE IN THE NEXT FISCAL YEAR. THIS IS THE SECOND YEAR THAT CONGRESS HAS REQUIRED THE STATE DEPARTMENT TO PROVIDE DETAILED INFORMATION ON HUMAN RIGHTS IN COUNTRIES RECEIVING U.S. AID. BUT AS VOA'S

CONGRESSIONAL CORRESPONDENT ROBERT LODGE POINTS OUT, NOT EVERY COUNTRY WHOSE RECORD WAS EVALUATED CAME UNDER CRITICISM:

TAPE: CUT EIGHT -- LODGE

"THE STATE DEPARTMENT IN MOST CASES AVOIDS HARSH CRITICISM OF COUNTRIES WHERE HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS HAVE BEEN ALLEGED, AND IS QUICK TO POINT TO CASES WHERE POLITICAL FREEDOMS HAVE IMPROVED. THERE IS STRONG CRITICISM OF SOME CLOSE ALLIES -- SUCH AS KOREA, THE PHILIPPINES, AND ISRAEL IN THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES. BUT IN EACH OF THOSE THREE CASES THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION AID PROPOSALS FOR NEXT YEAR HAVE NOT BEEN REDUCED. (OPT) CONGRESS -- IN ITS PRESSURE FOR BETTER HUMAN RIGHTS CONDITIONS ELSEWHERE IN THE WORLD HAS NOT IGNORED A WELL KNOWN CASE IN THIS COUNTRY. SEVENTY-FIVE CONGRESSMEN HAVE JOINED IN URGING THE U.S. JUSTICE DEPARTMENT TO BECOME INVOLVED IN THE SO-CALLED WILMINGTON TEN CASE -- TEN PERSONS WHO CLAIM THEY WERE CONVICTED UNJUSTLY BY A STATE COURT FOR BURNING A GROCERY STORE IN WILMINGTON, NORTH CAROLINA. THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE RECENTLY REDUCED THEIR SENTENCES, BUT REJECTED REQUESTS TO PARDON THE GROUP OR COMMUTE THEM."

NARR:

THE U.S. CONGRESS DID NOT INTERRUPT ITS DEBATES DESPITE A WINTER BLIZZARD OF NEAR RECORD INTENSITY WHICH HIT THE NORTHEASTERN UNITED STATES THIS WEEK WITH DEVASTATING EFFECTS IN MANY AREAS. IN THE NEW ENGLAND STATES THE STORM LEFT BEHIND A BLANKET OF SNOW OVER A HALF-METER DEEP. AND IN SOME PLACES SNOW WAS PILED SEVERAL METERS HIGH AS A RESULT OF FIERCE WINDS.

THE BLIZZARD BROUGHT ALL NORMAL ACTIVITY IN BOSTON AND THE SURROUNDING AREAS TO A STANDSTILL. SCHOOLS AND GOVERNMENT OFFICES WERE CLOSED FOR A FEW DAYS, VERY FEW BUSINESSES ATTEMPTED TO OPEN, AND TRAFFIC WAS ALMOST NON-EXISTENT AND IN SOME AREAS EVEN BANNED. (OPT) AND AS VOA CORRESPONDENT BILL READ REPORTS FROM BOSTON, BY WEEK'S END, THE AREA WAS BEGINNING TO RECOVER FROM THE STORM'S EFFECTS:

TAPE: CUT NINE -- READ

"OPERATION DIG OUT IS WELL UNDER WAY HERE IN BOSTON AND THE SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES OF NEW ENGLAND. SOME TEN THOUSAND MEN INCLUDING STATE MILITIA AND FEDERAL TROOPS ARE AT WORK, USING THIRTY-FIVE HUNDRED PIECES OF HEAVY EQUIPMENT TO FREE THE AREA FROM THE SIEGE OF SNOW. A DAY OR TWO WILL BE NEEDED TO GET ALL MAJOR ROADS OPEN...A WEEK OR TWO TO CLEAR ALL THE SIDEROADS.

HERE IN THE CITY OF BOSTON A STATE OF EMERGENCY REMAINS IN EFFECT THREE DAYS AFTER THE STORM. ONLY FOOD STORES ARE OPEN AND CUSTOMERS HAVE TO WALK TO THEM BECAUSE A BAN ON DRIVING IS BEING STRICTLY ENFORCED. BOSTON POLICE ARE UNDER ORDERS TO ARREST ANYONE DRIVING IN THE CITY WITHOUT PERMISSION OFFENDERS RISK A FIVE-HUNDRED DOLLAR FINE AND A YEAR IN JAIL."

NARR:

BY WEEK'S END, MOST OF NEW ENGLAND WAS BEGINNING TO RETURN TO NORMAL. MANY AIRPORTS REMAINED CLOSED UNTIL SATURDAY AND MOST ROADS WERE IMPASSABLE IN SMALL COMMUNITIES THROUGHOUT THE AREA.

ANNCR:

AND THOSE ARE SOME OF THE STORIES THAT MADE HEADLINES THIS WEEK YOUR NARRATOR WAS-----, JOIN US AGAIN NEXT----WHEN THE VOICE OF AMERICA TAKES A LOOK AT THE NEXT SEVEN DAYS OF THE WEEK.
MAH/RCS